

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 1637

Application No. 10/581,375

Paper Dated: February 15, 2012

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of September 15, 2011

Attorney Docket No. 3135-061626

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-24 (Cancelled).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A dispensing device for a fluid, the dispensing device comprising:

a container for the fluid with a valve which is placed on the container and has an outlet opening, the valve adapted to be opened by actuation of an operating element, and

a flexible tube connected to the outlet opening for dispensing the fluid,

wherein the dispensing device is adapted to contain a fluid suitable for human or animal consumption, wherein in a first state distal part of the flexible tube is encased by enclosing means for enclosing the distal tube part, in a second state the distal part of the flexible tube is movable at least partly outside the enclosing means, and wherein the operating element is only accessible from outside in the second state of the distal part of the flexible tube;

wherein the distal part of the flexible tube is adapted for being engaged by a user's mouth;

wherein, in the first state, the tube comprises a bent tube part, that the bent tube part separates the distal tube part from the tube part connected to the valve, and that the distal tube part can be moved outside the enclosing means by changing the curvature of the bent tube part, and

wherein the bent tube part is adapted to urge the distal tube part outside the enclosing means by means of resilient force.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the enclosing means comprise a chamber which is arranged on the dispensing device and which is inaccessible in the first state.

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Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the dispensing device is filled with a fluid suitable for human consumption.

Claims 28-29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the dispensing device comprises a cap which is provided with a cavity for receiving the distal tube part in the first state.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 30, wherein the cap is provided with an enclosing element for enclosing the distal tube part in the first state.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein a part of the enclosing means can be removed from the dispensing device.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 32, wherein the enclosing means comprise a sticker.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 30, wherein the enclosing means form part of the cap and can be broken off the cap.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 30, wherein the enclosing means are pivotally connected to the cap.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 30, wherein the valve is a valve which can be operated by an operating element and that the operating element is only accessible from the outside in the second state.

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Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the cavity for the distal part of the tube extends adjacently of the operating element.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the tube part connecting to the valve extends transversely of the direction of movement of the valve in both the first state and the second state.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 38, wherein in the second state the distal tube part extends substantially in line with the tube part connecting to the valve.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 38, wherein in the second state the distal tube part extends substantially transversely of the tube part connecting to the valve.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the dispensing device is a container under pressure provided with a closing valve and that the operating element is adapted to operate the closing valve.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the dispensing device is a bottle and that the valve comprises a pump mechanism which can be operated by the operating element.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the container is provided with indicator means connected to the enclosing means, wherein the indicator means at least indicate that the dispensing device is in the second state.

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Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the container has a circular cross-section and that the valve is arranged eccentrically on the container.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): A method for manufacturing a dispensing device for a fluid for consumption, comprising of filling a container with a fluid for consumption, connecting a valve to the container, connecting to the valve a tube for dispensing the fluid, wherein by enclosing a tube end in a closed space of the dispensing device.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 45, further comprising enclosing the tube under bias such that opening of the closed space before use results in a movement of the tube end out of the closed space.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the method further comprises of applying an overpressure in the filled container.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): A container for a fluid for consumption, comprising a container provided with an outer end on which an opening with valve is arranged, wherein the outer end has a peripheral edge and that the opening is arranged eccentrically on the outer end.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The dispensing device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the valve is a valve which can be operated by an operative element and that the operative element is only accessible from the outside in the second state.